

MINUTES

RHODE ISLAND HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

May 23, 2014

The 338th meeting of the Rhode Island Higher Education Assistance Authority was held Friday, May 23, 2014. Chairwoman Ms. LaSalle called the meeting to order 8:30 a.m.

Board Members in Attendance:

Ms. Faith LaSalle, Chairwoman

Dr. William Croasdale

Mr. John Howell

Mr. Daniel Egan

Mr. Dennis Duffy

Mr. Robert Delaney

Mr. Christopher Feisthamel, designee for General Treasurer Gina Raimondo

Members Absent:

None

Also Attending:

Ms. Gail Mance-Rios, Acting Executive Director

Mr. Joseph Palumbo, Legal Counsel

Mr. Charles Miller, CIO

Ms. Linda Makhoul, HR
Ms. Dana Peterson-Fatuda, RIHEAA
Mr. Michael Joyce, RIHEAA
Ms. Lisa Shevlin, RIHEAA
Ms. Winnie Antos, RIHEAA
Ms. Laurie Brayton, Senate Analyst
Mr. Steve Strychaz, Union President
Ms. Heather Hudson, Treasury
Mr. Neil Steinberg, RI Foundation
Mr. Jim Sansay
Mr. Bruce Leach

1. The Minutes of the Board of Director's Meeting held on April 25, 2014 and the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on May 9, 2014 were unanimously approved.

2. Chairwoman's Report: Ms. LaSalle stated the Strategic Plan will be on the agenda each month to ensure we stay on target. Ms. LaSalle introduced Mr. Neil Steinberg of the Rhode Island Foundation and asked Mr. Steinberg to give the board information about creating an

endowment. A discussion ensued.

Mr. Steinberg stated, setting up an endowment is simple and can be done right away as long as you know what type of endowment you want to create.

3. Acting Executive Director's Report: Ms. Mance-Rios stated that a list of 529 day events were included in the board packets, we have a BBQ at the Pawtucket Red Sox, and two sessions for financial planners and attorneys. Speakers include: the Treasurer's Office, AllianceBernstein and RIHEAA.

Ms. Mance-Rios introduced Heather Hudson of the Treasurer's Office.

Ms. Mance-Rios and Ms. Hudson are investigating the Children's Universal Savings project. Taking the program from an opt in program to an opt out program. Ms. Hudson stated that she has spoken with Kids Count and the Department of Health, they are supportive. This program helps families save for access to higher education.

Mr. Feisthamel made a motion to allowed conceptional approval to continue the work on the Universal Children's Savings Account, seconded by Mr. Egan.

Voted in favor: Mr. Duffy, Mr. Egan, Mr. Delaney, Mr. Howell, Dr. Croasdale and Ms. LaSalle.

Voted against: None

Action Item: CollegeBoundfund One-year extension with AllianceBernstein. Mr. Feisthamel stated that fund changes to the CollegeBoundfund went into effect in March 2014. Mr. Feisthamel recommended an extension to the contract due to the new fund changes and provide the new Treasurer the opportunity to participate in the decision process.

A motion was made by Dr. Croasdale and seconded by Mr. Delaney to extend the contract of the CollegeBoundfund with AllianceBernstein for one-year, subject to final negotiated terms.

Voted in favor: Mr. Duffy, Mr. Egan, Mr. Delaney, Mr. Howell, Dr. Croasdale and Ms. LaSalle.

Voted against: None

A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel matter pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 § (a) (1) and Investigative proceedings matter pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 § (a)(4)United States Department of Education letter was made by Mr. Feisthamel and seconded by Mr. Howell.

Closed session began at 9:40 a.m.

Public session resumed at 10:00 a.m.

Ms. LaSalle stated no votes were taken in Executive Session. A motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session was made by Dr. Croasdale and seconded by Mr. Feisthamel.

Voted in favor: Mr. Duffy, Mr. Egan, Mr. Delaney, Mr. Howell, Dr. Croasdale and Ms. LaSalle.

Voted against: None

There being no further business to come before the Board of Director's, the meeting adjourned.

Adjournment was at 10:05 a.m.

Mr. John Howell
Secretary